

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

ORIOL JULES,	:	Civil No. 3:17-cv-1210
	:	
Petitioner	:	(Judge Mariani)
	:	
v.	:	
	:	
CLAIRE DOLL, <i>et al.</i> ,	:	
	:	
Respondents	:	

MEMORANDUM

I. Background

On July 11, 2017, Petitioner, Oriol Jules, a native and citizen of Haiti, filed a petition for writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2241 challenging his continued detention by the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (“ICE”). (Doc. 1). At the time his petition was filed, Petitioner was detained at the York County Prison, in York, Pennsylvania. (*Id.*).

In an effort to ascertain the custodial status of Petitioner, the Court accessed the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement Online Detainee Locator System, which revealed that Petitioner is no longer in the custody of that agency.¹ The ICE Local Field Office confirmed that Petitioner was released from custody on November 6, 2017.

¹ Upon entering Petitioner’s alien registration number, 209866645, and his country of birth, Haiti, into the Online Detainee Locator System, <https://locator.ice.gov/odls/homePage.do>, the results returned no matches for any such detainee.

Consequently, for the reasons set forth below, the Court will dismiss the habeas petition as moot.

II. Discussion

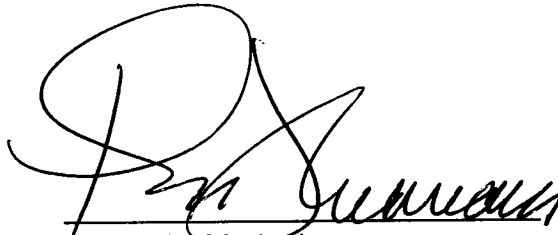
Article III of the Constitution dictates that a federal court may adjudicate “only actual, ongoing cases or controversies.” *Lewis v. Continental Bank Corp.*, 494 U.S. 472, 477 (1990); *Burkey v. Marberry*, 556 F.3d 142, 147 (3d Cir. 2009). “[A] petition for habeas corpus relief generally becomes moot when a prisoner is released from custody before the court has addressed the merits of the petition.” *Diaz-Cabrera v. Sabol*, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 124195, *3 (M.D. Pa. 2011) (quoting *Lane v. Williams*, 455 U.S. 624, 631 (1982)). Thus, when a petitioner, who challenges only his ICE detention pending removal and not the validity of the removal order itself, is deported, the petition becomes moot because the petitioner has achieved the relief sought. See *Tahic v. Holder*, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 49782, *3-4 (M.D. Pa. 2011); *Nguijol v. Mukasey*, 2008 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 95464, *1-2 (M.D. Pa. 2008) (dismissing the habeas petition as moot).

In the present case, the habeas petition challenges Petitioner’s continued detention pending removal. See (Doc. 1). Petitioner was released from custody on November 6, 2017. Because Petitioner has been released from ICE custody, the petition no longer presents an existing case or controversy. See *Diaz-Cabrera*, 2011 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 124195 at *2-4; *Sanchez v. AG*, 146 F. App’x 547, 549 (3d Cir. 2005) (holding that the habeas petition challenging the petitioner’s continued detention by ICE was rendered moot

once the petitioner was released). Accordingly, the instant habeas corpus petition will be dismissed as moot. See *Blanciak v. Allegheny Ludlum Corp.*, 77 F.3d 690, 698-99 (3d Cir. 1996) ("If developments occur during the course of adjudication that eliminate a plaintiff's personal stake in the outcome of a suit or prevent a court from being able to grant the requested relief, the case must be dismissed as moot.")).

A separate Order shall issue.

Date: October 26, 2018


Robert D. Mariani
United States District Judge